

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) A method of removing an oil filter from a filter cap, comprising the steps of:

moving an actuator which extends through a side wall of said filter cap so as to exert a force on said oil filter; and

moving said oil filter relative to said side wall in response to said force being exerted on said oil filter.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein:

said filter cap has a filter chamber defined therein,

said oil filter is positioned in said filter chamber,

said actuator comprises a detent button having a first end which is positioned in said filter chamber and a said second end which extends out of said opening, and

said step of moving said actuator comprises moving said detent button so as to exert said force on said oil filter with said detent button.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said step of moving said oil filter comprises ejecting said oil filter from said filter chamber in response to said force being exerted on said oil filter by said detent button.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said filter cap has a filter retainer secured thereto, further comprising the step of:

moving said filter retainer from a retention position in which said filter retainer retains said oil filter to a release position in which said oil filter is movable relative to said filter cap in response to said force being exerted on said oil filter.

17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein (i) said filter cap has a plurality of spring arms secured thereto, and (ii) said oil filter has a post extending therefrom, further comprising the step of:

moving each of said plurality of spring arms from a retention position in which said plurality of spring arms cooperate to retain said post to a release position in which said post is movable relative to said filter cap in response to said force being exerted on said oil filter.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said step of moving said actuator comprises moving said actuator into contact with said post so as to exert said force on said post.

19. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein (i) said filter cap has a plurality of spring arms secured thereto, (ii) said oil filter has a post extending therefrom, and (iii) said post has a spheroid-shaped member defined therein, further comprising the steps of:

urging said spheroid-shaped member into contact with each of said plurality of spring arms; and

moving each of said plurality of spring arms from a retention position in which said plurality of spring arms cooperate to retain said spheroid-shaped member to a release position in which said post is movable relative to said filter cap in response to said urging step.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said step of moving said actuator comprises moving said actuator into contact with said spheroid-shaped member so as to exert said force on said spheroid-shaped member.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said urging step comprises urging said spheroid-shaped member into contact with each of said plurality of spring arms in response to movement of said actuator into contact with said spheroid-shaped member.

22-23. (Canceled)